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Premier Tomasz Arciszewski Defines Poland's Position

I fully realize the responsibility which I have taken upon myself, together with my colleagues in the Cabinet. Never before in the history of the Polish people have political leaders stood before a situation as difficult and as pregnant with consequences as today. Not only is the fate of an independent state at stake, but the very existence of a nation.

For reasons which were beyond our control, Poland, that first and most faithful ally among the United Nations, found herself in a very difficult situation. Our war record is so clean that we could be used as an example of loyalty and sacrifice for a common cause and the keeping of our promises. We have added our tremendous effort to that of our Allies in the struggle against German aggression, both in the military field and in the resistance movement against the occupant, without sparing blood or victims.

We delayed the westward pressure of the Nazi war machine by eight months. Over five million Poles have given their lives, either as the result of war activities or the terror of occupation. We are fighting the Germans on all fronts in this greatest of all world wars, and we are fighting ceaselessly inside Poland. The best example of this is the uprising in Warsaw, beginning in August of this year, that lasted for 63 days and is one of the most glorious battles for freedom that world history has ever witnessed.

This Government considers itself the heir and successor to the basic tendencies of two previous Governments, that of the late General Sikorski and that of Stanislaw Mikolajczyk. Our principal aim is the preservation and handing down to the Polish nation of an independent Polish State. We want to achieve this in common effort with our allies, by completely beating the Germans against whom we have fought since 1939, in Poland and on all Allied fronts, as well as by a sincere understanding with Russia.

Our next aim is the reconstruction of Poland. The Government will consider the agreement of political parties in Poland of August 15, 1943, and the Declaration of the Council of National Unity of March, 1944, as having laid the foundation of our activities.

The political basis of the Government, in Poland, has remained unchanged because a coalition of the four political parties in the country—the Polish Socialist Party, the National Party, the Peasant Party and the Christian Democratic Labor Party—still exists. I here declare that I desire to welcome representatives of the Peasant Party into the London Cabinet as soon as possible, for the sake of the Cause which is dear to us all.

The victorious efforts of Great Britain, whose determination in 1940 saved European civilization from disaster, take first place in this effort. We gaze with admiration and appreciation at the imposing effort and military success of our first allies in this war, who, themselves being in a most difficult situation in 1940, extended hospitality to our Government and our Armed Forces. We shall never forget this sincere and friendly help which enabled the Polish Government in London to become the real center of the resistance movement in Poland and of Polish activities all over the world. We continue to build the whole system of our external relations on alliances and bonds of friendship which were the foundation for our decision in 1939, that is, in the first place, on our alliance with Great Britain.

Sincere ties unite Poland with the powerful American nation. Our thoughts go out to France, which is being reborn under the leadership of General De Gaulle, who has led his nation from defeat to new greatness, who has been defending her honor and her rank as a great power. The Polish Government was one of the first among the United Nations to establish, not only official but also friendly, relations with General De Gaulle's Government. We believe that the foundations of future order and security in Europe should be close French-Polish collaboration.

We look to the successful development of Central European good-neighborly relations and close collaboration with Czechoslovakia, with whom we have signed preliminary arrangements for confederation. We do not overlook this important matter and will continue to cultivate the idea of a practical rapprochement after the war with that neighboring nation.

Apart from the consolidation of our alliances and the deepening of our friendships, the most important problem whose solution faces the Polish Government is now to bring about clarification and settlement of our relations with our eastern neighbor. After the period between 1939 and 1941, which was painful and difficult for us, the late General Sikorski took the initiative in that direction. Endeavors to bring about

the normalization of Soviet-Polish relations have been the continuous concern of the Polish Government from that time on.

My Government sincerely adheres to the policy of an understanding with the Soviet Union and desires to do everything in its power—continuing the efforts of previous Governments—in order to bring about such an understanding, which could become a guarantee of a really friendly and lasting settlement of relations between two neighboring states. This understanding must be based on respect for the rights and vital interest of both sides. It must also be an understanding which will not evoke a feeling of injury and injustice among the Polish people.

The operations of the Polish Home Army established for the first time in history the accomplished fact of a common struggle by Polish Armed Forces and Soviet armies against a common enemy. Thus a great opportunity presented itself to our eastern neighbor to lead our mutual relationship on an entirely new road of friendship and brotherhood-in-arms. So far this opportunity has been missed. We are convinced that this has done real harm to the interests of Poland as well as of Russia.

We regard the voice of Poland as decisive in all the most important national affairs and, according to established custom, we will continue to seek her opinion and will ask for her approval in all our most important decisions. The question of material help for the civilian population of Poland, both under German occupation and in territories occupied by Soviet forces, must take first place. We are doing our best to see that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, which has enormous stores of food, clothing and medical supplies at its disposal, may reach Poland.

The State will take over the function of leadership and the supervision of the main branches of economic life, in order to guarantee fulfillment of these economic plans. Some branches of industry will be nationalized. A planned economic system will be established for all the main branches of national economic life. Nevertheless the State will encourage private enterprise. There must be a thorough rebuilding of the agricultural structure.

The Government will have special consideration for Polish citizens of the Jewish faith, who have borne the greatest and most painful losses in the fight against the invader and who proved that they could not only suffer but also fight against the Germans. An example of this is the Battle of the Ghetto in Warsaw in 1943. Renewing our expressions of sympathy for the oppressed and words of condemnation for the hangmen, the Government declares that, in accordance with many previous declarations, all German laws directed against Jews in Poland are null and void. The Government will do all it can to make good the great harm which has been done by the German barbarians and to change the situation in accordance with the best traditions of Polish tolerance.

One of the inspiring sources from which ideas of a better organization of the life of nations, based on righteousness and Christian morals flows, is the Holy See, which has given Poland, in the course of this war, many proofs of understanding and sympathy. We are grateful to it for moral support and for emphasizing Poland's right to life, freedom and independence.

I also want to draw your attention to the recent conference at Dumbarton Oaks, which dealt with the organization of post-war security. It would be too early to foretell the results achieved there and although we cannot share in some of the tendencies in the drafts worked out by the three great powers, nevertheless, we consider it an important fact in itself, that the question of a solution so important to world peace has been attempted.

Cordial ties unite Poland with the great American nation whose material contribution in this war is greatest and whose assistance to all nations invaded or forced into war weighed the scales on the Allied side. Our Armed Forces have benefited, and still benefit from this aid, and we believe that we shall continue to have the support of the United States Government and the noble American nation in realizing our aims and continuing our fight, together with the United Nations. We have always had the support of Americans of Polish origin who took upon themselves voluntarily a considerable part of the work for the Polish cause in the Western Hemisphere.

(EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT MADE BY POLISH PREMIER TOMASZ ARCISZEWSKI BEFORE THE POLISH NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 13, 1944.)

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Front Cover: Polish war orphans en route to New Zealand (Official Coast Guard Photo)

W A R S A W *

by JAN KUCHARZEWSKI



I have lost our capital and suddenly, as it were, the lid of the casket weighs down on our spirit. The capital is the palladium of independence, the main center of national life. During the long exile, national misfortune and national humiliation, each exile sees in his

dreams the moment of returning to his country's capital, and the moment of joyous triumph amid buildings decorated with the national flags, amid the ringing of bells in all churches and amid the joy of the people who for years have been suffering torment and have been living with the expectation of that day.

The time comes when these expectations and hopes begin to be fulfilled. Italians, Frenchmen, Belgians already hasten to their reconquered capitals. We have seen here refugees, like ourselves separated from their homelands, who already made their way to their European capitals and are active there, such as Carlo Sforza, or Van Cauwelaert, a frequent guest and lecturer in our Institute, and contributor to our *Bulletin*. We cannot appear on the soil of Poland even in the parts from which the Germans have been expelled. Our capital has turned us into orphans. Psalm 136 comes to mind.

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning,

"If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy."

... Warsaw is destroyed. Once before, her destruction was announced after the November Revolution of 1830. After it had been crushed, Tsar Nicholas I ordered the Citadel to be built at the northeastern outskirts of Warsaw. When it was completed, Nicholas declared: "I have built the Citadel and in the event of a new revolt I shall destroy Warsaw, and it is not I who am going to rebuild it." The Warsaw fortress was erected by the Russians not for the defense of Warsaw

from foreign enemies, but with the intent of turning its guns against the city.

The destruction of Warsaw means the ruin of an age-old bastion of western civilization in the east of Europe. Without Warsaw the spacious Masovian plain becomes an area through which the destroyers of the world march at will. The destruction of Warsaw is a terrible warning for the peoples of Europe: what befalls me today, may befall thee tomorrow.

The destruction of Warsaw is a blow to Poland, but not a verdict on her. There remains the spirit, without a home or roof, without shelter. It withdraws into the depths of human souls and there establishes the *Covenant of the Homeland*. The substance of the spirit was not confined to houses, fireproof safes, bonds, stones, not even to pictures, statues and books, but to souls . . .

Starting with the Confederacy of Bar in 1768, an eternal flame of revolt against foreign violence smoldered in Poland, and Warsaw was almost continuously the headquarters of that revolt. The most recent outburst of that revolt was the rising in Warsaw in August and September of this year 1944: 176 years since the Confederacy of Bar, 150 years since the Kosciuszko Insurrection.

From the very beginning, the Poles' struggle against the oppressors is linked with their deepest conviction in the struggle for the freedom of subjugated peoples, with the belief in the solidarity of free peoples and those aspiring to freedom. Fighting for the freedom of Poland, the Poles fight for the very principles of universal freedom and expect from other peoples hating tyranny and oppression, assistance in their liberating struggle, convinced that those peoples, when aiding Poland, simultaneously fight for their own freedom.

The Polish insurrection of 1794, as is stated and demonstrated by the distinguished French historian Albert Sorel, saved the French Revolution by creating a diversion and bringing upon and against itself the forces of the three absolutist monarchies of Russia, Prussia and Austria. The November Rising of 1830 was decided upon in the secret councils of the Polish conspirators when, in the autumn of 1830, news reached them that Tsar Nicholas I was preparing a coalition and attack against France after her July 1830 revolution, and against Belgium after her August 1830 revolution. This was stated at the time by Lafayette in the French Chamber of Deputies. The Cadets, rising in the night of November 29, 1830, like a tempest against the Russian Governor, Grand Duke Constantin, and forcing their way into the Belvedere Palace through Agrykola Street and the Sobieski Bridge,

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* Excerpts from an address by the Hon. Jan Kucharzewski, President of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences, delivered at an extraordinary session of the Institute in honor of the City of Warsaw. Reprinted from *The Bulletin of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America*, Vol. III, No. 1.

POLISH WAR ORPHANS FIND PEACEFUL HAVEN IN NEW ZEALAND

FIVE years ago when the war broke in Poland, large masses of Polish civilians, resident in Eastern Poland, men, women and even children, were deported deep into the interior of Russia. They were held there until 1941 when the late Polish Prime Minister, General Wladyslaw Sikorski, concluded a pact with the Soviet Government. Following this pact, some of the Poles were released and sent to Iran. Finally, this year, some of the children from this group have found a peaceful and permanent haven in New Zealand.

No story has as yet been written about the hellish experiences and wanderings of these Polish children, who, torn apart from their families, were sent to the arctic forests of Siberia, from which they later made their way to the malarial camps of Iran.

The first steps toward bringing them to New Zealand were taken in 1943 after a group of Polish exiles, bound for Mexico, passed through New Zealand. Mrs. Marja Wodzicka, wife of the Polish Consul-General there, turned to Mrs. Peter Frazer, wife of the New Zealand Prime Minister, in the matter. Both Mr. and Mrs. Frazer became deeply concerned with the plight of these Polish children. Mrs. Wodzicka was appointed delegate of the Polish Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare to investigate the best methods by which the children could be brought to New Zealand.

Early in 1944, Prime Minister Frazer called a conference of Ministers to which he invited Consul-General Wodzicki and Mrs. Wodzicka to make definite plans for the project. As a result of these discussions, the New Zealand Government decided to give these Polish children a special camp, equipped with everything necessary to their happiness and welfare.

Their coming to the Antipodes was finally and definitely decided last summer at a conference held in London between Prime Minister Frazer and Jan Stanczyk, former Polish Minister of Labor and Social Welfare.

The first batch of Polish children to reach New Zealand's



(Official Coast Guard photo)
Ice Cream Hour on a Coast Guard-manned transport conveying Polish orphans to New Zealand.

friendly shores was a group of 725 who arrived in November, 1944. Almost all originally came from the eastern part of Poland. Many, in all probability, will never again find their parents or families, scattered in various parts of the world.

They came on an American military transport that also brought 1,800 New Zealand soldiers, veterans of four years service in the Near East. Besides the Polish children and the New Zealanders, the ship also brought some American nurses who had seen front line duty in Italy, China, Burma and India.

When the ship reached Wellington harbor, Premier Frazer, along with Dr. and Mrs. Wodzicki and Major Foxley, appointed commandant of the children's camp and many other officials came aboard personally to greet the children. A most moving scene took place when the Prime Minister, after concluding his official speech of welcome, stepped down among the children to greet them personally.

The children were somewhat loath to disembark, for they had become fast friends with the New Zealand soldiers with whom they had lived in close contact during the three-week voyage. The soldiers had taken pains to make the children's life aboard ship happy and free from care.

The camp is some two miles outside the little town of Pahiatua, located in rich farming country, near a main highway. Until recently this camp was used for enemy aliens. Now it has been changed completely to accommodate the Polish children. Only four empty watch-towers remain to remind one of its former character. Today, the gates are wide open and all visitors are welcome. A red and white flag floats proudly overhead telling passersby that Polish children live and work here preparing for the time when they can return to their homeland.

At present there are 725 orphans in the camp along with 113 adults: 42 teachers, one doctor, one dentist, and four craftsmen. There are also five families, each numbering two or three members, that live in specially built little houses on camp grounds.

The Poles were settled in 15 dormitories. There are four large dining halls, and two reading rooms that contain Polish and English books and periodicals. The most elaborate buildings are the schools. The camp has a pre-school nursery, elementary schools for boys and girls, an academic high school, and a dressmaking course. In the center of the camp there is a concert hall and, a little to the right of it, a chapel.

At present a motion picture theatre is under construction. All buildings have central heating, something most unusual in New Zealand, despite the rather long and severe winter.

The camp hospital merits special description. It is so modern and well equipped that no large city would be ashamed of it. It has in addition to its modern equipment, an excellent drug-store, and is located in a series of buildings at the edge of the camp.

Adult patients have private rooms, while children are kept in sunny general wards. Most of the young patients are victims of malaria, a reminder of their life in the camps of Russia and Iran. Several of the children suffer from eye trouble, acne produced by malnutrition, and rheumatism. In general, however, the health of the children improves almost day by day, a normal response to good care and a supervised diet. Up to the present the establishment and maintenance of the camp has cost approximately 250,000 pounds (about \$1,000,000).

The decorations of the camp lecture hall reveal that despite their long exile from Poland, these children and their teachers have not forgotten their principles and traditions. A tattered standard hangs on the wall, offered by the crew of a Polish ship that not long ago docked in New Zealand. These Polish sailors and their officers visited the Pahiatua Camp in order to see the Polish children. The flag flew from the ship's mast during the landings in Sicily and at Salerno.

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They learn to play again. Aboard a Coast Guard-manned, New Zealand-bound transport.

(Official Coast Guard photo)



In the bunkroom of a Coast Guard-manned ship.

(Official Coast Guard photo)

THE DISCOVERER OF VITAMINS

An interview with Dr. Casimir Funk by Jerzy Tepa

FEW people are aware that Dr. Casimir Funk, the world famous scientist and one of the discoverers of vitamins, is an American of Polish birth.

The vitamin concept developed by Dr. Funk has become a discovery of world-wide importance to mankind. Vitamins improve health, correct deficiency diseases, and as therapeutic and prophylactic agents brace up the human organism.

They have proved of immense importance in the present war, adding nourishing ingredients to the food which is forwarded to our armed forces in condensed form over thousands of miles.

In a recent interview, Dr. Funk was kind enough to tell the story of the discovery of vitamins and of the various stages of his research.

"Born in Warsaw in 1884," said Dr. Funk, "I studied first in Poland and then went to Berne and Geneva. In Berne I took my doctor's degree in chemistry after studying under Professor Kostanecki. Later I went to Paris."

"And then?"

"Then came long years of scientific wanderings: two years at the Pasteur Institute in Paris; four years of collaboration with Professors Emil Fischer and Abderhalden, the former Nobel prize winner in Berlin. In 1910 I went to London and worked there at the Lister Institute. The following year I started my first research work in the field of vitamins. I remained in England until 1915, and then came to the United States. Returning to Poland, I worked from 1923 until 1927 as chief of biochemistry at the Institute of Hygiene in Warsaw, where I had been sent by the Rockefeller Foundation."

"Would you be good enough, Dr. Funk, to give a brief history of your discovery?"

"While working with Professor Abderhalden, a specialist in protein chemistry, I had noticed back in 1907, that animals fed with artificial food preparations wasted away. To counteract this, neutral foods, such as milk or powdered meat had to be added to their diet.

"In 1911, I was particularly interested in beri-beri, a very common disease in countries like India and China where the population lives principally on white rice, and in scurvy that was so common on board merchant vessels because of their lack of fresh food during long voyages. I also studied rickets and pellagra. The origin of these diseases was the subject of much discussion in scientific circles. Some authorities thought they were a specific form of poisoning, while others looked upon them as infections. Only a very small minority of physicians recognized that they were caused by a deficiency of certain alimentary ingredients. The Lister Institute suggested that I devote myself to the study of beri-beri, having in mind the possibility that it was caused by protein deficiency. But after a few weeks I dropped the protein idea as I had reached the conclusion that the agent, a lack of which caused beri-beri, was a substance unknown to the scientific world. And so I began to hunt for this unknown food element.

"Clinical observations had established that beri-beri was a specific disease appearing in countries where the people ate polished rice, and that it was not found where unpolished rice

was the staple food. Experiments with animals had also taught us that brewer's yeast and unpolished rice made chickens immune to a similar illness. That observation had made brewer's yeast popular as a basic source of the agents known today as 'vitamins.' About 1911 I began to extract that interesting substance from rice polishings and yeast. Chemical reaction indicated that the substance belonged to an entirely new and unsuspected group of nutritional factors. My research work showed that I had before me a nitrogenous base and that this particular one belonged to the so-called 'pyrimidine' group. The separation of the substance in the laboratory proved tremendously difficult on account of minute quantities found in rice polishings, but a somewhat larger yield was obtained from yeast. Another difficulty was the instability of the new substance. Thus, for instance, when using a hundred pounds of material, one obtained in final analysis less than in rapid extraction from 10 pounds of the same material.

"I struggled against these difficulties for two years, and finally came to the conclusion that this chemical problem would have to remain unsolved until extraction on a large factory scale would be possible. This was a tragedy for me as no one seemed to realize my difficulties.

"But finally I succeeded in 1912 in isolating chemical substances, one of which I called the 'anti beri-beri vitamin.' Today we call it Vitamin B-1 or thiamine. The other was nicotinic acid, or the anti-pellagra vitamin called also niacine.

"Thus with niacine the first crystalline vitamin was separated by me in 1912. Studies of the three then isolated crystalline substances proved that besides vitamin B-1 and nicotinic acid a series of other substances was needed to maintain a pigeon or a chicken on a white rice diet. Above all, my research had shown quite clearly that nicotinic acid is an indispensable food constituent."

The discovery that all the above agents were required in animal nutrition

was in reality the discovery of the vitamin B-complex, so much in use today.

"Were you the first, Dr. Funk, to use the word 'vitamin'? Did you introduce the name into chemistry?"

"Certainly. I called the substances discovered by me in 1912 'vitamins,' i.e., substances indispensable to nutrition. The introduction of the term was not an easy matter. The Lister Institute authorities persisted in erasing that term whenever I used it in scientific papers and reports. It was Dr. Ludwik Rajchman, a Pole, later director of the Medical Bureau of the League of Nations, a well-known hygienist and founder of the Polish Institute of Hygiene, who in 1912 asked me to write an article on the research work I had been doing. As this was not an original article, but a report on my previous work, I was not compelled to submit it to the Lister Institute and so the term 'vitamin' appeared for the first time in *The Journal of State Medicine*. In this article I put forward the view that scurvy was caused by a deficiency of the anti-scurvy vitamin (now called Vitamin C), that rickets is caused by a deficiency of Vitamin D; pellagra by a deficiency of anti-pellagra vitamin, called nicotinic acid or niacine.

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Dr. Casimir Funk, discoverer of vitamins.

POLISH DESTROYER GARLAND SINKS GERMAN SUB IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

by ZDZISLAW BAU

The British and Polish Admiralties had recently announced the sinking of a German U-Boat—the last one in the Mediterranean—by the Polish Destroyer "Garland." The dramatic details of that operation have just arrived by cable from a war correspondent. Here is his story.

WHILE I was in Alexandria, impatiently awaiting the invasion of Greece, the Polish destroyer *Garland* dropped anchor in the roadstead. Although she slipped in very quietly, and her crew did not go ashore, the whole town immediately seemed to know that the gallant Polish destroyer had come from some sort of spectacular victory. In swank Royal Navy clubs, in port pubs, even on the street people were talking about her . . . that she had sunk an important enemy craft and had returned with many prisoners.

I rushed over to the dock, was permitted on board, and after making numerous inquiries, finally managed to obtain the details of that amazing engagement. Unfortunately, I am forced (by the censor) to omit certain sensational information; for example, how the German pirate was spotted, the time and place of the encounter. These facts can be revealed only after the war.

The *Garland* had formed part of a destroyer flotilla, whose task was to escort plane carriers and to trail larger vessels, which the Germans used to evacuate their troops from Greek islands when it became "too hot" for them.

"We could hardly believe our good luck," said a young lieutenant whom I interviewed. "It was the first German sub we had seen in a whole year! At last these long months of tedious patrolling were being rewarded! Besides, we had a score to settle. As you probably know, our sister ship, the *Kujawiak* was sunk in the Mediterranean in 1942. Now it was our turn to attack!"

The officer continued:

"Things began to happen then. Orders rang out sharply. 'Man your battle stations!' 'Prepare depth charges!' Meanwhile the periscope had disappeared. Within a few minutes the first depth charges were on their way to the hidden target. We watched breathlessly. The very surface of the water shook with the force of the explosions, spray rose high in the air, the ship creaked, and the deck shivered beneath our feet. We slowed down as if hesitating, then the engines vibrated with redoubled force, as she swung round to send more depth charges after the others. The phosphorus thrown about the ship remained luminous for a long time afterwards!"

"Then we lost contact. The Captain, fearing the sub might escape, signalled for assistance. The Commander of the flotilla was sending other destroyers, but before they arrived, the *Garland* again attacked with depth charges. A liaison Officer said: 'I bet we hit her,' but no one was anxious to take on the bet.

"At dawn the U-Boat emerged. She was damaged by the *Garland's* depth charges and unable to float under water any longer. Her speed had been reduced to three knots. She was turning slowly from side to side like an intoxicated beast; finally her grey-green body was still. There was no number on her.

"What happened next will be remembered by the crew as long as they live. When the sub emerged, the *Garland* was between two British destroyers; *Terpsichore* and *Troubridge*. The *Garland* made a turn of 90 degrees, and in one and a half minutes fired 18 rounds from one gun, scoring four direct hits. The *Terpsichore* and *Troubridge* were shelling madly. The conning tower was shattered to bits.

"Now the *Garland's* great moment had arrived, and the order everyone was so tensely waiting for was given: 'Attack with depth charges!'

"The *Terpsichore* surged forward, while the *Troubridge* lagged behind. The way before the *Garland* was open, and she pushed into battle like a mad beast, charging the sub with full speed. It was magnificent—just like a cavalry charge! (The Poles always use the expression 'cavalry charge' to denote something particularly risky and dangerous in the way of war accomplishments). Four hundred yards further ahead, the Captain ordered another depth charge attack. The entire action lasted approximately two and a half minutes. The submarine was shaken by the explosion, rose in the air, and after a few seconds, sank. All that remained was a large patch of oil and 47 German men and officers who abandoned the ship before she went down.

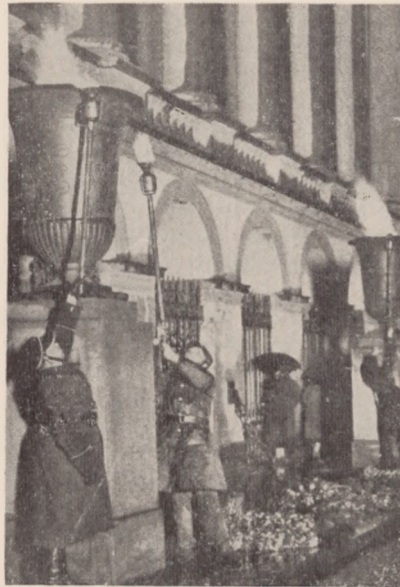
"Some hours later the *Garland* received congratulations from the Commanding Admiral, ending with the words: 'Long Live Poland!'"



Hoisting a torpedo warhead on board the Polish destroyer, *Garland*.

TOMB OF THE POLISH UNKNOWN SOLDIER IN WARSAW

by ADAM STANISLAWSKI



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw on All Souls' Day.

particular reverence because it was to him and millions like him that she owed her rebirth as a free nation after a century and a quarter of enslavement. On national holidays military parades marched past the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, while one of the first acts of every official foreign visitor to Poland was to place a wreath at the Tomb.

Already in 1923 a committee with General Jozef Haller of

IN the very heart of Warsaw, beneath the arcaded colonnade of the reconstructed 18th century Saxon Palace housing the offices of the Polish General Staff in Pilsudski Square, rests the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. On November 2, 1925, the Polish nation honored its nameless war dead by transporting with full military honors the remains of an unknown hero from the Lwow battlefield for interment in the specially prepared burial niche in the historic Square.

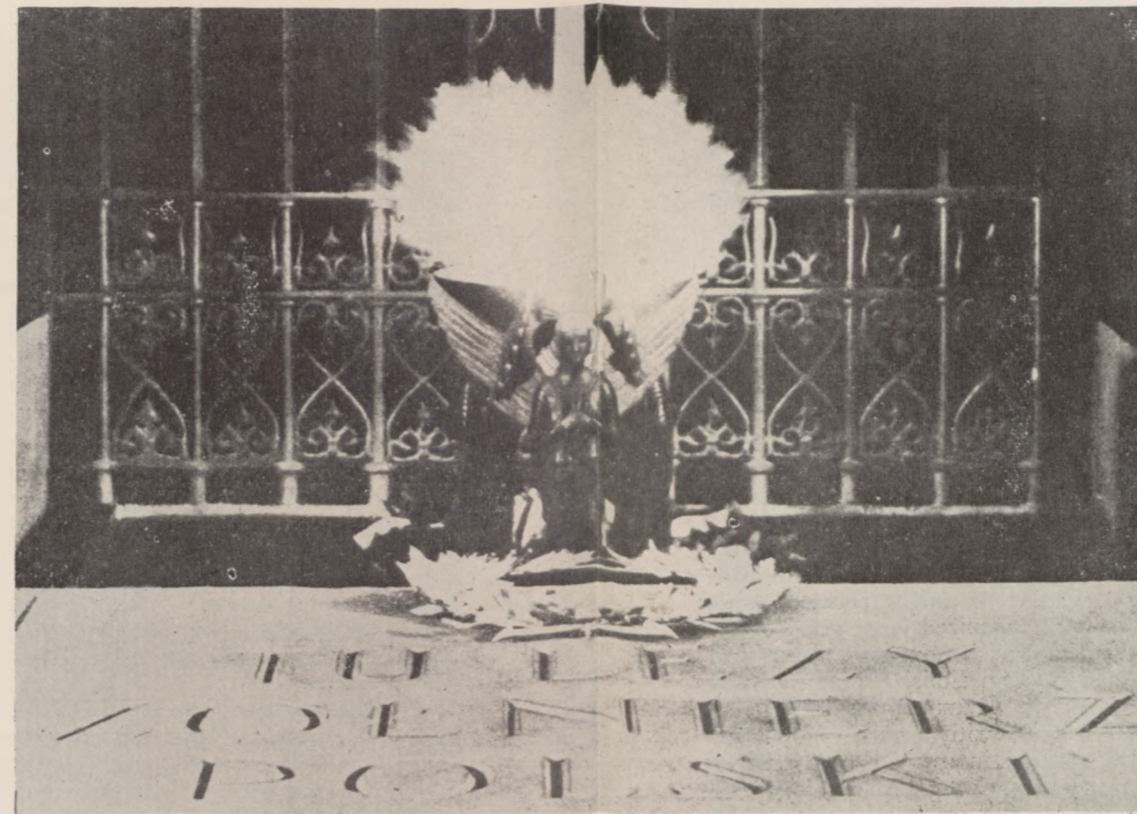
Other nations love and honor their Unknown Soldiers, but Poland held hers in particular

World War I fame at its head, had been formed to devise a plan of paying homage to the Polish Unknown Soldier. The idea was accepted with enthusiasm by the country at large. At first it was intended to erect a monument in the center of Pilsudski Square opposite the General Staff Building following the tearing down of the Russian Basilica, an eyesore and hated relic of Tsarist rule in Warsaw.

Meanwhile, however, an unforeseen event occurred. Anonymous donors placed a memorial slab against the equestrian statue of Prince Jozef Poniatowski by Thorwaldsen in front of the colonnade of the Saxon Palace. The people of Warsaw spontaneously began to honor the memory of the Unknown Soldier, making donations and covering the slab with flowers. New projects for a permanent memorial constantly appeared in the press and public opinion clamored for action.

The Ministry of Military Affairs therefore decided to build a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier under the arcade of the General Staff Building. The task of drawing up the plan and supervising its execution was entrusted to the outstanding sculptor, Stanislaw Ostrowski, who had just made the original suggestion of building an independence mound of earth on the site of the old fort at the entrance to Traugutt Park. The author of the Polish Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is now in New York. His equestrian statue of King Wladyslaw Jagiello, displayed at the New York World's Fair, has recently been acquired by the City of New York and will stand in New York's Central Park.

Selected as the spot for the memorial were the three cen-

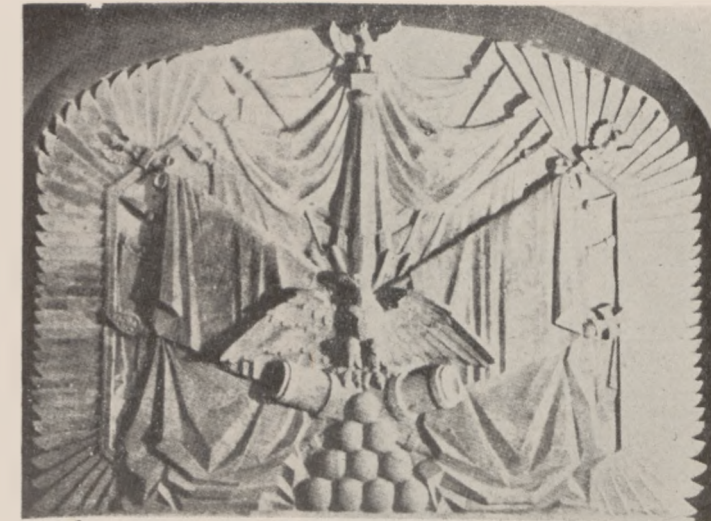


"Here lies a Polish soldier who fell for his Country . . ."

can readily understand them.

The floor under the three arcades was covered with highly polished black granite. On each of four pillars forming the square enclosing the grave Ostrowski placed a large tablet listing the battlefields on which Polish soldiers covered themselves with glory between 1914 and 1920, and giving the date of each battle. On the floor in front of each tablet stands a sculptured brazier: three winged angels whose flame-like wings support a cup-shaped receptacle. At the head of the sarcophagus itself is a fifth brazier, in which the flame was kept burning perpetually. The figures of the angels are black, their wings gold. These vessels

tral arcades of the General Staff Building's colonnade, separating the Saxon Garden from Pilsudski Square. A new passage to the Garden in the rear was made by opening the side arcades, which had hitherto been closed. For the central arch directly in back of the grave, the artist designed a grille with Polish eagle at top and, fittingly enough, an ornament in the shape of a cross in the center. Into other grilles were forged lace-like reproductions of military decorations, the Cross of Valor on the right, the *Virtuti Militari* on the left, each so eloquently symbolic that every soldier



Fragment of bas-relief decoration. Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw.

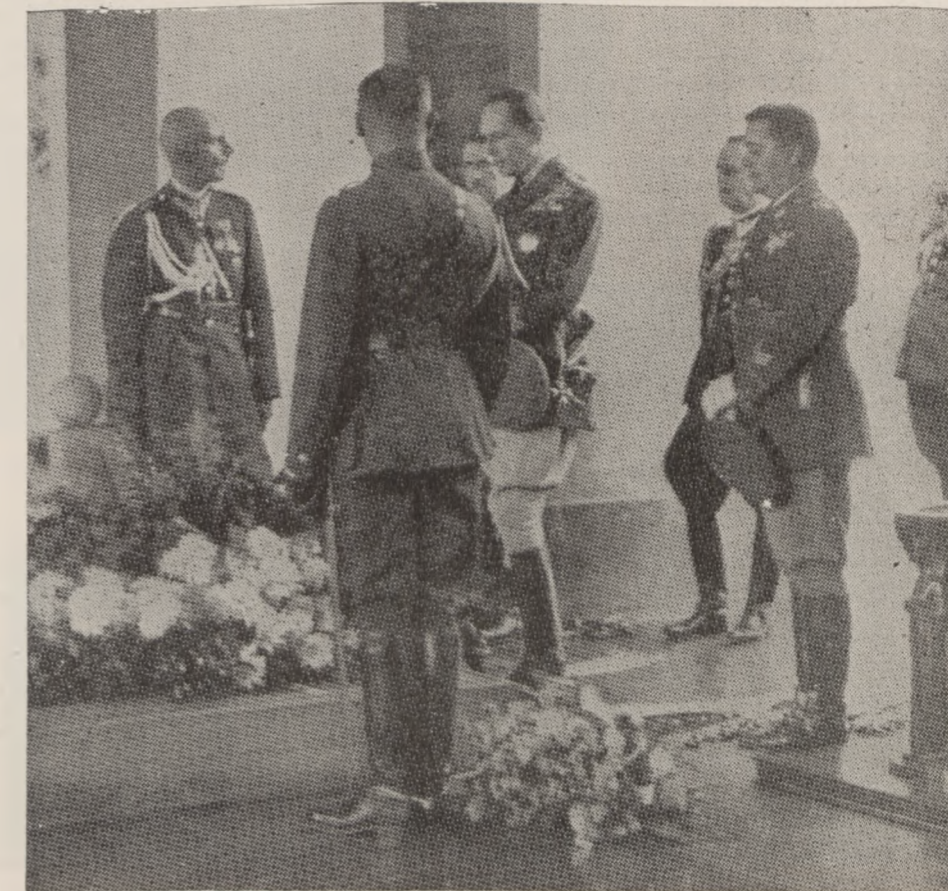
were also conceived as a kind of war calendar, for on the anniversary of each battle the brazier in front of the corresponding tablet was lighted. Outside the arcades rise four broad plain stone pillars on which were placed large bronze urns, incrustated with figures of female mourners. The urns form a harmonious line with the arcades while the pillars blend with the promenade in the Saxon Garden and focus attention upon it. In the front and in the back of the arcades Ostrowski closed the two frontal walls with the winged motif (Please turn to page 15)



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw. Fragment of the interior.



Burial urns with soil from Polish battlefields, interred with the Unknown Soldier.



General Douglas MacArthur placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw in 1932.

T H E P O L I S H Y M C A

by GORDON W. NUGENT



Paul Super, General Director of Polish Y.M.C.A.

ONE of the bright spots in Polish history these past five years of war and misfortune is the survival and growth of the Polish YMCA and its service to many tens of thousands of Polish refugees and soldiers in a score of countries.

Chartered March 30, 1922, and a completely independent and autonomous Polish movement, it was a large and prosperous institution, in pre-war Poland. It had three of the finest YMCA buildings in all Europe, the one in Warsaw, erected debt-free at a cost of \$900,000, being the largest and most modern

YMCA building in any city of Europe, Great Britain included. Finished in 1938, it was a splendid plant, having all the up-to-date features of a modern YMCA building, including 155 bedrooms, an attractive restaurant, 2 large gymnasium halls, a small theatre, and a swimming pool 83 feet (25 meters) long. This building was an enormously popular center, and served the people of Warsaw in a wide variety of ways. The other two modern buildings were in the great industrial center of Lodz, with its population of 650,000, and the old cultural center of Cracow. In addition to this, there were three fine modern camps for boys, one of them up near the Baltic coast, one in the center of the country on the plains, and one down in the beautiful Beskid Mountain, this latter having a concrete swimming pool 83 feet long as one of its attractive features.

There were two smaller city YMCA's in rented quarters, one in the fine old city of Poznan, and one in Poland's aston-

ishing modern port, Gdynia, this Polish "Y" having the unique feature of a fleet of three or four small yachts on the bay.

All this equipment cost over \$2,000,000, half of it coming from Polish sources and the other half from friends in North America. These centers served a constituency of 50,000 people, and played a role in Polish life far beyond their numerical and financial dimensions, for the Polish YMCA was a modern, progressive, democratic organization with a very extensive program.

When the war came, the Polish "Y" was one of the four agencies chosen by the Polish Government to serve the Polish Army. Hundreds of workers were trained for this service and operations had been begun when the general devastation wrought by the German and Russian invasions brought all systematic and organized work to a close, though a small unit was permitted to continue in Warsaw, supplying food to children and very old people and serving Polish prisoners of war.

The advancing German and Russian armies squeezed over into Rumania and Hungary some of the secretaries and leaders of the Polish YMCA who were caught between these advancing armies. They at once organized large relief enterprises in these two countries for Polish refugees and interned soldiers, financed about equally from Polish, American, and British sources. The work in Rumania made a particularly brilliant record for itself, with a staff of 500 employed workers, all Poles, serving in many centers with a program including housing, feeding, clothing, medical aid, and specialized forms of service for the ordinary civilians, for women, for students, for boys, and for the interned soldiers. At no time in its history has the Polish YMCA had the opportunity of rendering such extensive service and winning such widespread and deep approval. The work in Hungary centered in Budapest, and played an important role in the life of both the civilian refugees and the interned soldiers.

While the Polish armies were being formed in France, the Polish "Y" had begun in a small way to serve the army of General Sikorski when the fall of France in June, 1940, brought that work to an end. Some of the workers escaped to England, and these soon began work for the Polish Armed Forces being collected and trained in Scotland and in England.

Money was secured from British, Polish and American sources, and soon this establishment in Great Britain had expanded to become the central base of the Polish YMCA, with its general headquarters and Central Committee in London, a branch office in Scotland, a score of centers for the aviators in England, and an even larger number for the land troops in training all over the northern part of the island. One of the means of service to the more scattered groups was a 3-ton truck, rigged up with piano, radio, loud speaker, and a group of entertainers and speakers, which went around to provide information and recreation and musical programs for the small detachments. This "music wagon" was the nucleus from which grew the new type 5-ton truck which is literally a YMCA on wheels, with canteen, library, radio, piano, moving picture apparatus, first aid, and other services. Part of the truck indeed opens up as a stage.

When General Anders' Army was being rehabilitated around Bagdad after being withdrawn from Russia, Polish "Y" workers established 46 centers for the scattered units of that Army. It has followed that Army to Palestine, to Egypt, and 38 of its workers are now with General Anders' Army in Italy, with a hotel and general establishment at Ancona, 6 centers just back of the fighting front, moving with the troops, and 5 centers back at the base.

After the fall of France, one of the leaders of the Polish YMCA organized 68 centers for the Polish refugees and soldiers in Unoccupied France. When the Germans moved in, some of these centers were allowed to continue, though their executive officer had to go underground. With the expulsion of the Germans he has come to the surface again, and is organizing Polish YMCA work in and south of Paris, including such cities as Nantes, Lyon, and Toulouse.

When the Polish orphans, boys and girls, including the so-called Junaks, were gathered in Palestine, the Polish YMCA began serving them in their 5 chief centers and later in their hospital. A center was organized for the 200 Polish medical students in Beirut, Lebanon, and when the army began to organize the IIIrd Corps in Egypt, there too, the Polish "Y" began work for these Polish soldiers and for the wounded brought there from the Italian front.

When 24,000 Polish refugees were moved to temporary residence centers in five of the states of East Africa, the Polish Minister of Social Welfare asked the Polish YMCA to establish one of its centers in each of the refugee colonies.

During 1944 this number grew to 14, and in 1945 there will be 18 centers scattered over Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, North Rhodesia, and South Rhodesia.

When it was decided to send some of the Polish Air Force and Poland's Armored Division to France to fight under General Maczek as part of General Eisenhower's Army, the Polish YMCA was asked to send a Mobile Field Unit of 10 cars and 45 workers to go right up to the front with the troops, and then to organize 4 hotels of 200 beds each, with a canteen and social center in each hotel to serve the men of the Polish Army at the base and at designated places somewhat back of the front. This establishment is now in operation. A special fund of \$35,000 was provided by Polish War Relief for the equipment and operation of this unit. One of these automobiles was provided by the Polish Falcons of America, thanks to the leadership of Dr. Starzynski of Pittsburgh.

Meanwhile, of course, the base in Great Britain and Scotland was extensively expanded so as to serve 12,000 Polish aviators in England and the balloon barrage and special troops in Scotland. Now that a new First Corps is being formed in Great Britain, composed largely of Polish soldiers brought from the underground in France, and freed Polish soldiers who had been forced into the German Army and later taken prisoner by the Allied troops, rehabilitated and sent to Great Britain for training, and a number of men who

had been used by the Germans as forced labor, the Polish "Y" has organized 10 new centers in Scotland to serve these troops and several centers in convalescent homes where men are being rehabilitated.

In Switzerland an American Pole, Tom Kozlowski of Utica, N. Y., secretary of the Polish YMCA ever since April, 1919, works as an employee of the War Prisoners Aid of the YMCA visiting the 10,000 interned Polish soldiers in Switzerland, organizing and maintaining social centers for them both in their established bases and with the work detachments who go about the country building roads, digging canals, and performing other types of work.



Henryk Majchrzak, Director of Polish Y.M.C.A. in Great Britain.

In Germany the groups of Polish YMCA members who were fighting in the Polish Army and are now prisoners of war have organized "Y" centers within their prison camps, one of these groups having as many as 150 members.

Thus in a score of countries on three continents scattered over thousands of miles of distance, the Polish YMCA works today, serving far more people than it ever contemplated serving, operating over 100 centers for soldiers, refugees, orphans, and students, with an employed staff of 250 Polish workers and a 1945 budget of roughly \$1,000,000, of which some \$200,000 will come from North

American sources, the rest being supplied by the Poles themselves. Naturally this work, so especially and deeply needed in this time of great national distress, has received the highest commendations from the President of the Polish Republic, the Commander-in-Chief, generals, and soldiers of the armies, and from the Ministry of War and of Social Welfare, under which it serves. It is an interesting fact that the Polish YMCA is today serving its own people in more countries than is the YMCA movement of any other country of the world.

In 1922 the Poles elected to the position of General Director of the Polish "Y" Mr. Paul Super, one of the many "World Service secretaries," sent abroad by the International

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Polish Y.M.C.A. Music Corner for young aviation cadets of the Polish Army in England.



Mobile field unit of the Polish Y.M.C.A. with General Maczek's Polish division on the Western Front. The cars were donated by the Polish-American Council in Chicago, Ill.

A POLISH SOLDIER WRITES TO HIS MOTHER

The letter below was written by a young Polish soldier to his mother. The soldier is Bohdan Stachiewicz, son of the former chief of the General Staff of the Polish Army, General Stachiewicz. Bohdan, along with his mother and twin brother Julian, succeeded in escaping from the Gestapo in 1939. After journeying through France and Portugal, they finally settled in Montreal, Canada. There the two boys went to school where they won high praise for their brilliant work. Great futures were predicted for both and they were offered scholarships. Nevertheless, the Stachiewicz brothers gave up all that to enter the ranks of the Polish Army on their eighteenth birthday.

Bohdan, who was wounded in France, writes of his army experiences to his mother from a British hospital.

DEAR Mother,
So much has happened in the past month! Montreal seems far away and unreal, almost as if I hadn't seen it a decade instead of only a year.

In August, our Division was sent to the Caen front in Normandy. We attacked the strongest point of the entire German lines in France.

It's hard to describe the joy we had taking Germans prisoner. When they saw the word, "Poland," on our shoulder, they blinked and looked amazed. My tank unit, that is we five, took about 80 Krauts prisoner during just one day of battle. Julek's tank daringly attacked and destroyed one of their largest anti-tank guns. All this gave us confidence and strength to go ahead.

All in all, we felt in our element. My energy, accumulated during the year I spent in Scotland, had finally found a proper outlet.

The battle was one of life and death. Wherever we passed, only the earth and the sky remained. Often we felt sad at destroying lovely little French chateaux, but the Germans forced us to do it, by using them as observation posts and snipers' nests.

The 11th of August, towards evening, in the fifth day of the fierce battle for Falaise and during an attack of our regiment, I was wounded.

The entire attack was unbelievably difficult, for the Ger-



Polish soldiers attack!

mans held extremely strong positions and had succeeded in massing anti-tank guns all along our sector. We were directly opposed by S.S. Panzer Divisions, the famous "Tigers" and "Panthers," along with some German infantry. It was the worst part of the entire front.

Our regiment, as you know, Mother, is a tank reconnaissance unit, so we always go ahead of the division, but in battle, we were used to protect its wings.

We attacked immediately after a great aerial and artillery bombardment.

We held the left flank, in a huge wheat field. No one knew that we were completely surrounded by enemy infantry, hidden in the high grain. Not until we set the field afire, did they come out to surrender. Were we surprised! My regiment spearheaded the attack and thus we were the first to notice a concentration of German guns ahead of us. After a short barrage, we destroyed the battery and once again moved forward to attack. Our tank was the first to reach the German infantry's position. We wiped them out, for which we received, via radio, praise from the commander himself: "You're crazy fools, but I congratulate you!" I think that attack was the main reason why I received the Cross of Valor. War is a strange business, Mother.

The next day at dawn we attacked again, but after a few miles we ran into some extremely heavy fire from German artillery and anti-tank units. We tried to break through, but couldn't and had to retreat with heavy losses.

The Germans were hidden in a little woods, on a ridge at the foot of which was a beautiful little town. Our orders were: take it by storm after it is shelled.

The ruins were still smoking when we broke in at top speed in the face of German artillery. We were never in such a hell before. The world literally was falling to pieces about our ears. Those

(Please turn to page 15)



A bearded commander of a Polish tank brigade studies his maps from the turret of his armored car on the Western Front.

“ A SONG TO REMEMBER ”



The scenes pictured above are from Columbia's "A Song to Remember," which brings to the screen one of the most beloved figures in Polish history—Frederic Chopin. The film, co-starring Paul Muni and Merle Oberon, with Cornel Wilde in the role of Chopin, highlights the patriotism of the Polish composer and his love for the French writer, George Sand (Merle Oberon). Muni portrays Professor Joseph Elsner, Chopin's teacher and friend.

Running through the movie as background music are 23 of the most

popular Chopin compositions. They include such perennial favorites as the C-major Sonata, the A-minor Mazurka, the Minute Waltz, the Minuet, the E-flat Nocturne, the E-major Etude, the Fantasie Impromptu, the D-flat Berceuse and many others.

Produced in Technicolor, "A Song to Remember" was directed by Charles Vidor. Years in the planning and months in the filming, it is a tribute to Poland's national composer and to the tyranny-defying spirit of her people that has never permitted Poland to die.

HISTORIC POLISH CARPET AT THE "ART OF THE UNITED NATIONS" EXHIBITION, THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

This 17th century Polish carpet represents Poland at the exhibition. It is made of wool, nine feet, six inches long by six feet wide, woven in a factory founded by Joseph Potocki in the 16th century in Brody, near Lwow, Eastern Poland.

Mrs. Chauncey McCormick, wife of the president of The Art Institute of Chicago and an honorary citizen of Lwow, stands in front of the carpet.

The carpet was lent by the Dzieduszycki Collection of Niesluchow, Poland.



W A R S A W

(Continued from page 3)

headed by Piotr Wysocki, raising the battlecry "death to the tyrant," believed that they were starting a struggle for the cause of freedom.

The rising of 1863 against Russian oppression broke out when in North America civil war raged between the Union of the Northern States and the Confederacy of the Southern States demanding the retention of slavery and working for the breaking of the Union into two nations. The outbreak of the Polish rising was joyfully welcomed by the Union of the Northern States as a diversion deflecting the attention and forces of the European nations from American affairs and frustrating their intervention in favor of the seceding Southern States. None of these risings was efficiently supported by the peoples on whose help Poland counted.

"Poland is the Winkelried of nations," says Slowacki through the hero of his poem. Winkelried is the legendary Swiss hero who in the battle against the Austrians at Sempach on July 9, 1386, when the Swiss troops were unable to break the closed ranks of the Austrian infantry armed with spears, threw himself on the edges of a few enemy lances, and thus creating a break in the enemy ranks and opening the way for the Swiss soldiers . . .

Winkelrieds of Warsaw! When I think of them and of our role in relation to them, the simple and noble words occur to me, uttered more than eighty years ago by President Lincoln on the battlefield of Gettysburg in southern Pennsylvania where on July 1, 2 and 3, 1863, a bloody battle, victorious for the Northern States, was fought. On November 19, 1863, a portion of the Gettysburg battlefield was dedicated as the eternal resting place of the dead. On that occasion Lincoln made his brief, famous address:

We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final

resting-place for those who here gave their lives that the nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

This famous adage of Lincoln, with which he concluded his Gettysburg address, about the government of the people, by the people, for the people, was not new to Polish political thought. It was proclaimed earlier in a more general form, during our post-November emigration, by the Democratic Society whose Manifesto of 1836 expresses the slogan: *Everything for the people by the people*, and develops it as the fundamental principle of democracy . . .

The Poles' boundless self-sacrificing courage and patriotism sometimes appears to other nations incomprehensible, ill-advised, unrealistic, romantic. If the nations who took up the struggle proclaiming the slogan of universal freedom, will not appreciate Poland's boundless sacrifice made for her own good and for the good of humanity, their slogan will disappear like an elusive phantom, and they will be themselves faced with the monster of force.

THE POLISH YMCA

(Continued from page 11)

Committee of North American YMCA's to cooperate with younger national "Y" movements. Poles today are enthusiastically unanimous in giving to Mr. Super a significant part of the credit for the remarkable growth of the Polish "Y". He has been decorated three times by the Polish Government, made a member of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences—he has written four books about Poland—and received various other honors and acknowledgments of his long service.

THE DISCOVERER OF VITAMINS

(Continued from page 6)

I have called the diseases, resulting from a deficiency of those newly discovered nutrients, as 'avitaminoses.' I also suggested that many other diseases would be found to belong to that group and that vitamins would be of great importance in relation to the study of growth, especially malignant growth. Most of my 'prophecies' have proved correct.

"In 1913, I first ventured upon an explanation of how some of the vitamins work. I pointed out that an increase of carbohydrates in animal food accelerates the appearance of beriberi symptoms. Thus I emphasized the importance of vitamin B-1 in connection with carbohydrate metabolism. Later progress has fully confirmed my opinion. In 1914, I published the first book on vitamins, a resume of my previous studies up to that date."

"May I ask you what you are working on now?"

"At present my research work is in the field of pharmaceutical chemistry, strictly laboratory work, dealing with new

POLISH ORPHANS IN NEW ZEALAND

(Continued from page 5)

"We give you this ensign, dear children," the commanding officer told them during the ceremony, "with the hope that you will never forget that you are Poles, and that you too will help uphold Polish honor."

The camp is well organized. The commandant is Major P. Foxley who heads the administrative staff and directs construction, equipment, the supply of food, clothing, etc. The resident delegate of the Polish Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare is Mr. J. Sledzinski, who is in charge of education.

medicines. Right at present I am pursuing the problem of reducing the toxic effects of certain drugs such as the sulfagroups with the aid of liver extracts, of salvarsan and other remedies that despite their acknowledged therapeutic properties, sometimes have severe toxic effects. I am also interested in cancer research. I was able to satisfy myself, as far back as 1913, that while the so-called 'Rous-Sarcoma,' a malignant growth peculiar to chickens, cannot be completely cured, its progress can be wholly checked by dietary control.

"I am happy indeed," said Dr. Funk in bringing this interview to a close, "that my work and the even more important nutrition research of my contemporaries has contributed so much to the health of our troops and those of our Allies. Reports on the nutritional condition of our Army and Navy are so excellent, in view of the difficulties that have to be overcome—dehydrated and canned foods, long storage, etc.—that all who are responsible for these splendid results deserve hearty congratulations."

TOMB OF THE POLISH UNKNOWN SOLDIER IN WARSAW

(Continued from page 9)

that is repeated throughout the entire construction and even frames the sculptured banners at both sides. Set in two other niches were lanterns which played colored lights upon the arcade at night.

The interior of the sarcophagus is thickly lined with iron plate and covered with a lid of the same material. On this rests the stone slab. In addition to the coffin with the remains of the Unknown Soldier, fourteen sealed burial urns were placed inside, containing soil from Poland's many battlefields and bearing appropriate inscriptions. The official act of erection, a silver wreath from the President of Poland and a resplendent silk shroud with white eagle emblazoned upon it were likewise buried with the hero from Lwow's battlefield. Thanks to its iron construction, the interior of the tomb is impervious to atmospheric influences. The grave itself is marked off by simple low granite blocks surmounted with stone balls.

The General Staff Building and its beautiful colonnade escaped damage during the siege of Warsaw in 1939. When the Germans goose-stepped into the Polish capital, one of their first acts was to place a military guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. But it was not a guard of honor. Its task was to prevent Poles from pausing at their national shrine and saying a prayer or leaving flowers at the Tomb. Despite German vigilance, however, Polish patriots did manage to bury the Tomb of their Unknown Soldier in flowers on national holidays like the Third of May.

Latest news from Warsaw states that the General Staff Building was seriously damaged during the Warsaw insurrection of August, 1944. One can only hope that the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier will have proven as impervious to bombs as it has proven resistant to time and the elements, and that in a liberated Poland it will resume the place of honor in Polish national life that, in point of fact, it has never ceased to occupy.

A POLISH SOLDIER WRITES TO HIS MOTHER

(Continued from page 12)

German mortars are really devilish.

I only remember that I was thrown into the conning tower and a whirlwind blast from artillery knocked the cover onto my head, hitting me with full force. Everything went black, but I was still able to report over our radio that I was wounded. The tower was covered with the blood of my commandant who was blown to bits in it. I couldn't tell them our situation, because I was so weak from loss of blood and the blow to my head. The back of my neck was wet with warm blood trickling from my head wound. The driver called that our tank was afire and to get out at once. But I didn't have the strength to move.

To add to all our troubles, the Germans again opened fire. Luckily for me, our driver had the presence of mind to drag

the remains of our commander's corpse out of the tower and then help me out. Aid came swiftly. They took me to a first aid station, then to a hospital in Bayeux.

My wound turned out to be quite serious. Pieces of shrapnel were lodged in my neck that was sprained when I struck my head against the tank. I was sent to a hospital in England for an operation.

On the whole, our Division fought very well. Julek made us all proud of him, especially near Chambois where we closed the famous "pocket" on the Germans. The battles were most fierce and bloody. Our supply lines were bad at times. Now the worst is over—and it's my bad luck not to be with my regiment when they're advancing so rapidly into Germany. I wish we could do it in Poland.

My Cross of Valor is the first in the regiment since 1940. I am doubly happy since it means so much to you.—Bohdan.

Christmas Message of Dr. Adam Pragier, Polish Minister of Information

THE war that has raged for five years on the continent enters its final phase. In that connection, plans for the reconstruction of the occupied nations are coming to the foreground.

Poland was the first to take up the fight against aggression and has faithfully persisted in that fight up to the present. Already, for the third time, Poland's soil has been the territory on which military operations are taking place.

Poland has suffered greater destruction than any other country. A high percentage of her population has perished and her economic structure has been completely ruined. Such immense devastation can only be made good in the course of long years through the cooperation of all nations in the work of reconstruction. This, however, depends on immediate supplies of foodstuffs, medical supplies and machinery which the Polish population badly needs.

The devastation in the economic sphere is enormous. Hundreds of thousands of dwelling houses, thousands of schools, hospitals, public utilities and workshops are in ruins. The task of reconstruction is staggering. Unfortunately, we shall not be able to fulfill that task alone without active foreign help. Efficient and practical help from abroad for the rebuilding of our country must follow the words of appreciation expressed for our efforts in the present war.

A most responsible task now confronts the Poles, whom fate compelled to find bread, freedom or shelter in foreign countries. We must convince the entire world that the worst destroyed country of all is Poland—that the moral obligation of the United Nations is material help at the reconstruction of the country that first of all opposed with arms Germany's might—that Europe's peace and security depends on a strong, economically well-equipped Poland, a Poland that is included in the permanent collective security system—that the natural resources of Poland and the genuine values of her labor are sound objects in which foreign capital could take practical interest—that only a politically and economically rebuilt Poland, based on a permanent system of security which takes into consideration the real interests of large as well as small nations, that only such a Poland can be a valuable factor in the stabilization of peace and that therefore the reconstruction of an independent, strong, democratic Poland is in the interest of the entire world.

THE POLISH REVIEW

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BOOKS ON POLAND

This is a selection of publications on Poland in the English language,
arranged according to subject matter.

GENERAL

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